

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 388 475

RC 020 300

AUTHOR Soto, Gary
TITLE Taking Sides.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-15-284076-1
PUB DATE 91
NOTE 141p.
AVAILABLE FROM Harcourt Brace & Company, 6277 Sea Harbor Dr.,
Orlando, FL 32887 (\$15.95).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Creative Works (Literature, Drama, Fine
Arts) (030)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Adolescent Development; Adolescent Literature;
*Basketball; Fiction; Friendship; Junior High
Schools; *Junior High School Students; *Mexican
Americans; *Peer Relationship; *Social Class;
*Sportsmanship; Suburban Schools; Teamwork; Urban
Schools; Values

ABSTRACT

This novel is written for adolescents and its plot features a junior high school sports environment. Fourteen-year-old Lincoln Mendoza, an aspiring basketball player, comes to terms with divided loyalties when he moves from the Hispanic inner city to a White suburban neighborhood. Lincoln's mother decides to move from the Mission District of San Francisco, a Mexican American barrio, to a middle-class suburb when she finds their modest apartment has been robbed. The move means that Lincoln will no longer play basketball at Franklin Junior High, but will play at Franklin's rival, Columbus. Like his new neighborhood, Lincoln's new school is different: the majority of students are White and from well-to-do families. Lincoln begins to miss his old school and friends, especially his closest friend and teammate Tony. He feels bad that most of the players from Franklin wear worn K-Mart sneakers, while Columbus team members wear Air Jordans. Although he is playing basketball for Columbus, Lincoln finds he still feels loyal to his old team. When Franklin and Columbus face each other in a league game, Lincoln worries about how he can play his best with his new White friends against his old buddies. As the day of the game arrives, Lincoln's own internal conflict is as intense as the battle between the two teams. But when the game is over, Lincoln realizes he has learned important lessons about winning, loyalty, change, and friendship. Includes English translations of Spanish words and phrases. (LP)

* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
